

REMARKS

Review and reconsideration of the Office Action of November 7, 2003 is respectfully requested in view of the previously submitted Amendment A and the above amendments and the following remarks. The specification and claims have been amended to correct formalities to present a more accurate translation of the priority document. Applicant submits that the amendments place the claims in a better condition for examination.

In addition, support for the amendments made to paragraph [0001] of the specification may be found on page 1, lines 17-19 of the priority document, PCT/EP01/04150.

Support for the amendments made to paragraph [0006] of the specification may be found on page 3, lines 15 and 23-24 of the priority document, PCT/EP01/04150.

Support for the amendments made to paragraph [0014] of the specification may be found on page 6, lines 18-22 of the priority document, PCT/EP01/04150.

Support for the amendments made to paragraph [0020] of the specification may be found on page 11, lines 13-25, and page 12, lines 10-14 of the priority document, PCT/EP01/04150.

Support for the amendments made to paragraph [0031] of the specification may be found on page 16, lines 8-13 and lines 19-23 of the priority document, PCT/EP01/04150.

Support for the amendments made to paragraph [0039] of the specification may be found on page 19, lines 20-26 of the priority document, PCT/EP01/04150.

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The claims have been amended in accordance with the amendments to the specification and in order to conform the claims to USPTO requirements. In addition, new independent claim 91 has been added. Claim 91 is supported from previous claim 46.

Care has been taken that no new matter is added.

Therefore, the claims currently pending are claims 46-91.

Applicant has no further comments.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should any points remain prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance, Applicant requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: **March 23, 2004**

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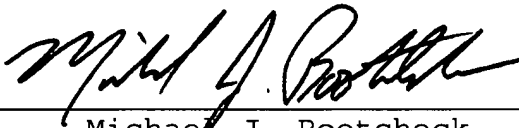
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT A for U.S. Application No. 10/019,422 filed December 20, 2001, was deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, addressed: Attn: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **March 23, 2004**.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.



Michael J. Bootcheck